

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177803

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJ: 31ST UNGA: KOREA CORE GROUP

1. BELGIUM CHARGE CAHEN CALLED IO JULY 16 TO MAKE DEMARCHE ON INSTRUCTIONS TO EFFECT THAT US DID NOT APPEAR TO BE TAKING INTO SUFFICIENT ACCOUNT THE SUGGESTIONS OF OTHER CORE GROUP MEMBERS WITH RESPECT TO CORE GROUP ACTIVITY. HE REVIEWED THIS ACTIVITY NOTING THE APPROACHES MADE TO NON-ALIGNED GOVERNMENTS, THE DRAFTING OF TWO CONTINGENCY RESOLUTIONS AND MEMORANDA AND THE IDEA OF A US APPEAL FOR A FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH TO CARRY OUT NEGOTIATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR SEPTEMBER 22, 1975 CONFERENCE PROPOSAL.

2. DEPARTMENT EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE THAT THERE WAS ANY PROBLEM WITH RESPECT TO FIRST TWO AREAS OF CORE GROUP WORK WHICH, IN OUR VIEW, HAD PROGRESSED SMOOTHLY WITH SUGGESTIONS FROM ALL SIDES AND GENERAL AGREEMENT
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ON WHAT WAS BEING DONE. WITH REGARD TO US INITIATIVE,

WE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDING NEW ELEMENTS TO THIS INITIATIVE. WE HAD, TOGETHER WITH ROK, EXAMINED THESE CAREFULLY AND CONCLUDED THAT SEVERAL OF THEM HAD

CLEAR DISADVANTAGES. WE, THEREFORE, PLANNED TO REITERATE SEPTEMBER 22 PROPOSAL WITH ONE NEW ELEMENT.

3. CAHEN STATED HE WAS UNAWARE OF THIS, BUT WHEN WE INDICATED THE CORE GROUP HAD BEEN INFORMED OF THIS ON JULY 14, HE NOTED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE DATED JULY 13 AND CONCLUDED THAT THEY DID NOT BENEFIT FROM THE INFORMATION SHARED AT THAT MEETING.

4. WHEN CAHEN STATED THAT HE WAS RETURNING THIS WEEK TO BRUSSELS, WE ASKED HIM TO STRESS TO HIS GOVERNMENT THE HIGH IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE CORE GROUP, OUR SATISFACTION WITH ITS REGULAR WORK, AND OUR PARTICULAR APPRECIATION FOR BELGIUM'S GOOD CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROUP. WE ADDED THAT IF CAHEN HAD ANY SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE INITIATIVE OR ANY OTHER PART OF THE CORE GROUP'S WORK, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE THEM AND GIVE THEM CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, AS WE PARTICULARLY VALUE OUR COLLABORATION WITH THE BELGIUM GOVERNMENT IN THIS MATTER.

5. CAHEN CALLED SEVERAL HOURS LATER AND RECALLED BELGIAN PROPOSAL MADE IN CORE GROUP ON JULY 13 TO EFFECT THAT NORTH KOREAN DESIRE FOR ABOLITION OF UNC BE LINKED INTO "RENEWED PROPOSAL." UPON CONSULTING WITH USUN, WE LEARNED THAT APPARENT CONFUSION EXISTS OVER WHAT THIS BELGIAN DEMARCHE IS ABOUT. BELGIANS IN FACT DID ASK THAT REFERENCE BE MADE IN THE DRAFT EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM (NOT THE RENEWED PROPOSAL) TO ABOLITION OF THE UNC, THAT SUGGESTION WAS INCORPORATED IN REVISED MEMORANDUM (USUN 2877).

6. WE SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED BELGIAN EMBASSY TO EXPLAIN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE EVENTS, EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR

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THE BELGIAN SUGGESTION AND TO COMMENT THAT WE HOPED THIS BACKGROUND CONCURRED WITH BELGIUM'S VIEW, IF NOT, TO CHECK WITH US FURTHER.

ROBINSON

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